

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 014669 TOSEC 010054

73

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: EUR/SOV:RBARRY:RVC

APPROVED BY: EUR/SOV:RBARRY

S/S-O:MR KUCHEL

C/WSHINN

EUR:RDVINE

----- 065424

O 210244Z JAN 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE 4786

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 014669 TOSEC 010054

EXDIS FOR ATTENTION OF MESSRS SONNENFELDT AND HARTMAN

FOLLOWING REPEAT MOSCOW 764 ACTION SECSTATE INSO LENINGRAD

19 JAN

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 764

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4

TAGS: PINT, UR

SUBJECT: TVERDOKHOLEBOV'S TRAIL

REF: 75 MOSCOW 18501,

1. SUMMARY. SOVIET DISSIDENT ANDREY TVERDOKHLEBOV'S TRIAL WILL NOT TAKE PLACE UNTIL AFTER THE CPSU CONGRESS. ALTHOUGH HE WILL PROBABLY BE TRIED UNDER ARTICLE 190-1 OF THE RSFSR CRIMINAL CODE, THE REAL AIM OF THE TRIAL IS TO ENABLE THE KGB TO DESTROY TOTALLY THE SOVIET CHAPTER OF AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL. THEREFORE THE PROSECUTION WILL "THROW THE BOOK" AT TVERDOKHOLEBOV. THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 014669 TOSEC 010054

KGB IS CURRENTLY ENGAGED IN

A SERIES OF MANEUVERS DESIGNED TO
INTIMIDATE AND BRIBE TVERDOKHLEBOV'S POTENTIAL DEFENDERS.
ALTHOUGH HIS COLLEAGUES IN AMNESTY AND HIS FRIENDS FEAR FOR THEM-
SELVES AS MUCH AS FOR TVERDOKHLEBOV, THEY INTEND TO ATTEMPT TO
SECURE AS NEARLY FAIR A TRIAL AS POSSIBLE. THEY WILL USE ALL
MEANS AVAILABLE TO AROUSE WESTERN PRESSURE TO INFLUENCE THE SOVIET
GOVERNMENT. THEY INTEND TO CONTINUE TO KEEP THE SOVIET CHAPTER
OF AMNESTY ALIVE FOR AS LONG AS POSSIBLE. END SUMMARY6

2. THIS TELEGRAM GIVES THE HIGHLIGHTS OF AN AIRGRAM IN WHICH WE
REPORT INFORMATION ABOUT ANDREY TVERDOKHLEBOV'S CASE AND ABOUT
THE SOVIET CHAPTER OF AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL. THE INFORMATION WAS
PROVIDED TO US BY VLADIMIR ALBREKHT AT CONSIDERABLE PERSONAL
RISK. ALBREKHT IS A FRIEND OF TVERDOKHLEBOV'S AND AN AMNESTY
MEMBER. HE IS COORDINATING TVERDOKHLEBOV'S DEFENSE. IT IS
ESSENTIAL THAT BOTH THE INFORMATION AND ITS SOURCE BE CLOSELY
PROTECTED TO KEEP ALBREKHT OUT OF JEOPARDY.

3. ACCORDING TO ALBREKHT, THE KGB HAS BEEN ORDERED TO POST-
PONE THE TRIAL UNTIL AFTER THE CPSU CONGRESS. ALBREKHT FEELS
THAT THIS DECISION RESULTED FROM THE ADVERSE WESTERN PUBLICITY
ENGENDERED BY THE KOVALEV TRIAL. THE KGB IS NOT UNHAPPY SINCE
THIS ALLOWS THEM TIME TO "IMPROVE" THE CASE AGAINST TVERDOKHLEBOV.
WHILE IT IS NOT YET TOTALLY CLEAR THAT TVERDOKHLEBOV WILL BE TRIED
UNDER ARTICLE 190-1 OF THE RSFSR CRIMINAL CODE, IT IS EXTREMELY
LIKELY. THIS ARTICLE DEALS WITH THE DISSEMINATION OF ORAL OR
PRINTED MATTER DEFAMATORY OF THE SOVIET STATE AND SOCIAL SYSTEMS,
AND THE MAXIMUM PENALTY IS CONFINEMENT UP TO THREE YEARS. THIS
IS NOT THE ARTICLE UNDER WHICH KOVALEV WAS TRIED AND SENTENCED TO
SEVEN YEARS CONFINEMENT AND THREE YEARS IN EXILE.

4. AS PART OF THE TRIAL PREPARATIONS, ALBREKHT SAYS, THE KGB HAS
BEEN APPROACHING POTENTIAL DEFENSE WITNESSES AND, USING A MIXTURE
OF THREATS AND BRIBES, HAS TRIED TO PREVENT THEM FROM EVEN-
TUALLY TESTIFYING ON TVERDOKHLEBOV'S BEHALF. THE KGB HAS ALSO
TRIED TO GUN DOWN SOME OF THESE PEOPLE TO TESTIFY FOR THE PROSE-
CUTION. IN ONE CASE, A MAN WAS ARRESTED AND OFFERED THE FOLLOWING
CHOICES: TESTIFY FOR THE PROSECUTION, IN WHICH CASE HE WOULD
RECEIVE PERMISSION TO RESIDE IN MOSCOW AND A JOB; TESTIFY FOR
NEITHER SIDE, IN WHICH CASE HE WOULD BE FREED BUT NOT ALLOWED TO
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 014669 TOSEC 010054

MOVE FROM SVERDLOVSK AND NOT BE ALLOWED TO GET OTHER THAN A
MENIAL JOB; OR CONTINUE HIS PLAN TO TESTIFY FOR THE DEFENSE. IN
THE LATTER CASE THE FULL RIGOR OF THE LAW (ARTICLE 190-1) WOULD BE
UNLEASHED UPON HIM.

5. ALBREKHT REPORTS THAT HE FEELS THAT THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES
ARE DETERMINED TO STAMP OUT THE SOVIET CHAPTER OF AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL. THIS IS THE REAL REASON FOR BRINGING TVERDOKHLEBOV

TO TRIAL. ACCORDING TO THIS ANALYSIS, THE AUTHORITIES CANNOT ACCEPT THE CONCEPT THAT AMNESTY BE ALLOWED TO EXIST. ALBREKHT EXPLAINED THAT THE NATURE OF THE ORGANIZATION, ESPECIALLY THE FACT THAT ITS CHAPTERS "ADOPT" POLITICAL PRISONERS, WAS ONE THAT INTRIGUED THE AUTHORITIES FOR A TIME, ESPECIALLY WHEN ONE OF THOSE "ADOPTED" BY THE SOVIET CHAPTER WAS A MAN INCARCERATED IN FRANCO'S SPAIN. FINALLY, HOWEVER, THE AUTHORITIES DECIDED THAT SUCH FREE-THINKING WAS "EXCEPTIONALLY DANGEROUS" FOR SOVIET SOCIETY. THEY HAVE DETERMINED TO EXTIRPATE AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL IN THE USSR.

6. ALBREKHT SAYS THAT HE DOUBTS THAT THE KGB WILL STOP AFTER HAVING BROUGHT ABOUT THE TRIAL AND CONVICTION OF TVERDOKHLEBOV. HE SAYS THAT HE EXPECTS TO BE ARRESTED AFTER THE TVERDOKHLEBOV TRIAL. HE ADDS THAT VLADIMIR TURCHIN AND OTHERS EXPECT TO BE ARRESTED TOO. HE SEES NO REASON, HOWEVER, TO STOP THE UNEQUAL CONTEST. HE PLANS TO USE ALL AVAILABLE MEANS TO SEEK TO PUT PRESSURE ON THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES TO MODERATE THEIR BEHAVIOR. IN PARTICULAR, ALBREKHT HOPES TO MOBILIZE PUBLIC OPINION IN THE WEST, NOT JUST THROUGH AMNESTY CHAPTERS, BUT ALSO THE MOSCOW FOREIGN PRESS CORPS.
STOESSEL UNQUOTE SISCO

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, TRIALS, DISSIDENT FACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE014669
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EUR/SOV:RBARRY:RVC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X4
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760021-1066
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760137/aaaabgix.tel
Line Count: 137
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 MOSCOW 18501
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <01 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TVERDOKHOLEBOV'S TRAIL
TAGS: PINT, UR, AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, (TVERDOKHLEBOV, ANDREY)
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006